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REBIRTH

3

NIGHTWING



Seeley
150701

SEELEY
FERNÁNDEZ
SOTOMAYOR



DC UNIVERSE
REBIRTH

3

NIGHTWING



IVAN REIS
&
JOE TRABO
+
SOLWAYSON

SEELEY
FERNÁNDEZ
SOTOMAYOR

NOW.

YOU LET AN
INNOCENT MAN DIE,
NIGHTWING!

NO...
RAPTOR...

Better Than **BATMAN** *Part 3*

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NIGHTWING CREATED BY MARV WOLFMAN & GEORGE PÉREZ BATMAN CREATED BY BOB KANE WITH BILL FINGER

THEN.
NEAR REINE, NORWAY.

THAT'S
THE PLACE,
NIGHTWING.

RUUD ER
GALEHUSET.
"RUUD'S
MADHOUSE."

The home of one
Knute Ruud, the
world's most
acclaimed designer
of mazes.

LOOKS
LIKE HE TAKES
HIS WORK
HOME WITH
HIM.

The story goes
that Knute got his
fortune told once
by a tarot reader.

The reader scared the
hell out of him by telling
him that someday an
assassin would come into
his house and kill him.

Knute, a notoriously paranoid shut-in,
used all the money he made from
designing mazes and labyrinths and
put it into his ever-expanding puzzle
house, a home that only he knows
how to navigate.

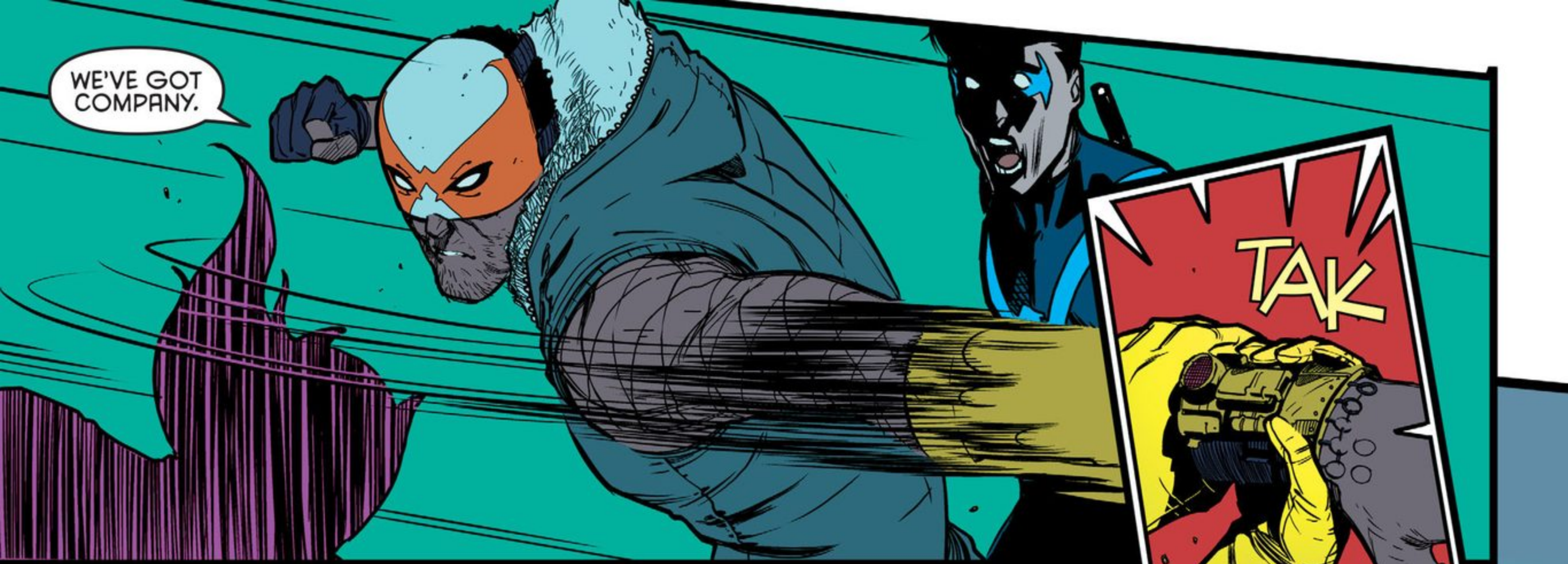
YOU
READY TO
PLAY?

RAPTOR, WHILE
OTHER TEENAGERS
WERE DOING THEIR
PAPER ROUTES, I WAS
NAVIGATING THE SECRET
LAIRS OF JOKERS,
PRANKSTERS,
PUZZLERS AND
RIDDLERS.

THERE
WAS EVEN A
"SUDOKUER"
ONCE, I
THINK--

'WING.

Ha!



WE'VE GOT COMPANY.

TAK

HAH!



WHAT YOU'VE GOT IS A MOUTHFUL OF PERMAFROST, JERK!

PAF

Ooooooh!
BATGIRL!



HEY, DON'T ANY OF YOU BAT-KIDS STAY IN GOTHAM ANYMORE?

SORRY, KIDDO, THE RAPTOR SCHOOL OF SIDEKICK REHABILITATION ISN'T TAKING NEW STUDENTS UNTIL SPRING SEMESTER.

FNT FNT

THIK

THAK

"STUDENT"?!
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?





THE
PARLIAMENT OF
OWLS APPOINTED
HIM AS MY...
PARTNER.

THIS IS THE
"UNDERCOVER"
JOB I TOLD YOU
ABOUT. IT GOT CRAZY.
INVOLVED. I'M SORRY
I MISSED YOU.



YOU'RE
WORKING
WITH A *THIEF* FOR
THE PARLIAMENT
OF OWLS? I--I
DON'T KNOW HOW
TO PROCESS
THIS.

AT
LEAST I'M
NOT ALONE,
RIGHT?



THE OWLS, DICK? DON'T
YOU REMEMBER WHAT
THEY DID TO US--TO
OUR FAMILY, BACK
IN GOTHAM?

YOU OF ALL
PEOPLE SHOULD
KNOW WHAT THEY'RE
CAPABLE OF.



I DO
KNOW. TOO
WELL.

THAT'S
WHY THIS IS SO
IMPORTANT.

AND
I'M SO CLOSE,
BABS.



DOWN IN THAT HOUSE IS THE **BLUEPRINT** FOR THE PARLIAMENT'S SECRET HQ, DESIGNED BY KNUTE RUUD.

THE OWLS WANT IT DESTROYED TO "PRESERVE ITS CLANDESTINENESS."



I'M GOING TO TELL THEM I DID JUST THAT.

BUT I'M GOING TO **TAKE** IT.



THEY'RE HIDING SOMETHING AT THEIR BASE, IN **CRETE**. SOMETHING THAT CAN PUT THEIR RICH, EVIL ASSES IN A PRISON CELL.

AND IT'LL BE THEIR "CHOSEN ONE" WHO'LL THROW AWAY THE KEY.



SO THIS IS WHAT'S GOT YOU IN SO DEEP. YOU MADE IT **PERSONAL**. YOU THINK IT **HAS TO BE** YOU THAT TAKES DOWN THE OWLS.



YOU'RE SO MYOPIC AND FOCUSED YOU ALMOST WENT INTO A DARK, TRAP-FILLED HOUSE IN A FOREIGN COUNTRY, AND THE ONLY PERSON WATCHING YOUR BACK IS **THAT GUY?**





RAPTOR IS...LOOK, HE'S NOT **BATMAN**, BUT I THINK I CAN TRUST HIM. HE HAS HIS OWN **MORAL CODE**.



OH GOD. I SEE WHAT THIS IS. IT'S YOUR "ROBIN HOOD" THING.

MY WHAT?

→Ahem←



NOT TO BE "**THAT GUY**," BUT WE'RE EXPECTED TO REPORT BACK TO CRETE IN THE MORNING, SO "SHOW ON THE ROAD" AND ALL THAT.



ARE YOU LEAVING?

NO. I'M JOINING YOU. IF WE CAN'T MAKE A DATE...



...AT LEAST WE CAN DO SUPERHERO STUFF.

SOME AWKWARD MINUTES LATER.

OKAY.
THAT WAS
EASIER THAN I
EXPECTED.

THE
POINT WAS
NEVER MAKING
IT DIFFICULT TO
GET IN.

VRMM

SHNK SHNK SHNK

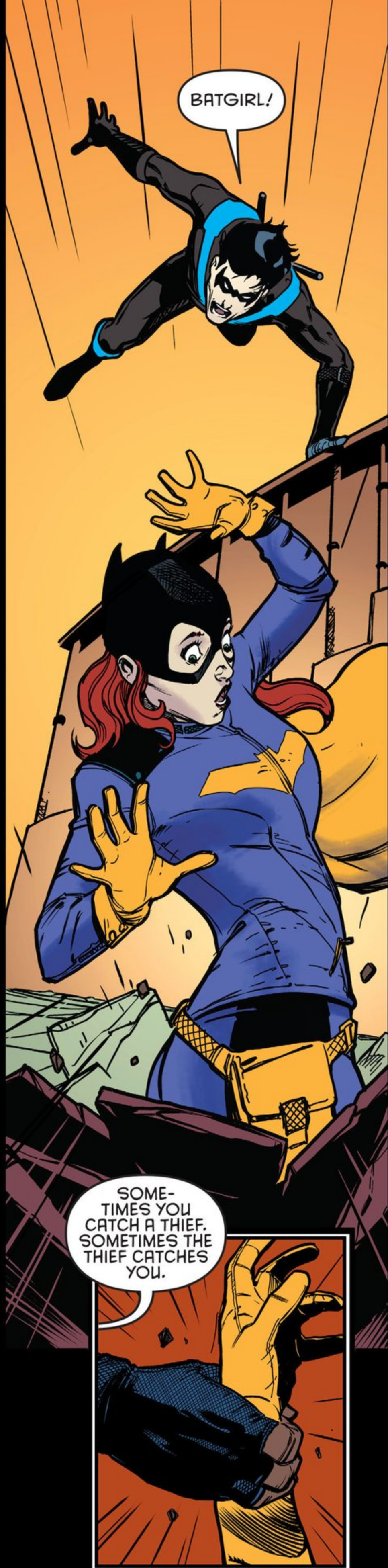
AND MORE
ABOUT MAKING
IT IMPOSSIBLE
TO GET OUT.

THE ONLY DOOR IN
THE PLACE GOES
STRAIGHT INTO
A WALL.

I GAVE UP
KARAOKE AND THE
BEST SUSHI I'VE
EVER HAD...

...FOR
THIS.

TIK



My "Robin Hood" thing...

When I was with the circus, we didn't have much. It was hard to compete with DVDs and big-screen TVs.

Other kids had cartoons and movies to watch. All I had was a permanently borrowed library book, *The Merry Adventures of Robin Hood*.

On rainy days, or while waiting to leave, I read that book over and over to ease my "itchy feet."

Heroes. Villains. Sword fighting. Arrow shooting. And a hero who worked for the little guy. The poor guy. Like me. Like my family.

There was a moment when Bruce introduced me to his world of "crime-fighting" when I thought of Robin Hood. Sure, Tony Zucco was a criminal.

But he was also a rich guy who thought he could do whatever he wanted to a bunch of penniless circus performers.

There was a moment when I asked myself: what if we didn't fight crime? What if we fought poverty?

I told that to Barbara once.

Without skipping a beat, this daughter of a police commissioner said...

"...If you stole from the rich and gave to the poor..."

"...you'd be a criminal."



OKAY, THIS ONE IS NOT LIKE THE OTHERS. WHAT DOES *TAROT* HAVE TO DO WITH THE HISTORY OF MAZES AND TRAPS?

SHNK

WE'VE GOT MOVEMENT...



THE CEILING. NIGHTWING--

IT'S A TILE PUZZLE.

WE HAVE TO RE-CREATE RUUD'S TAROT READING.



THE ONE THAT TOLD HIM SOMEONE WOULD COME TO KILL HIM.

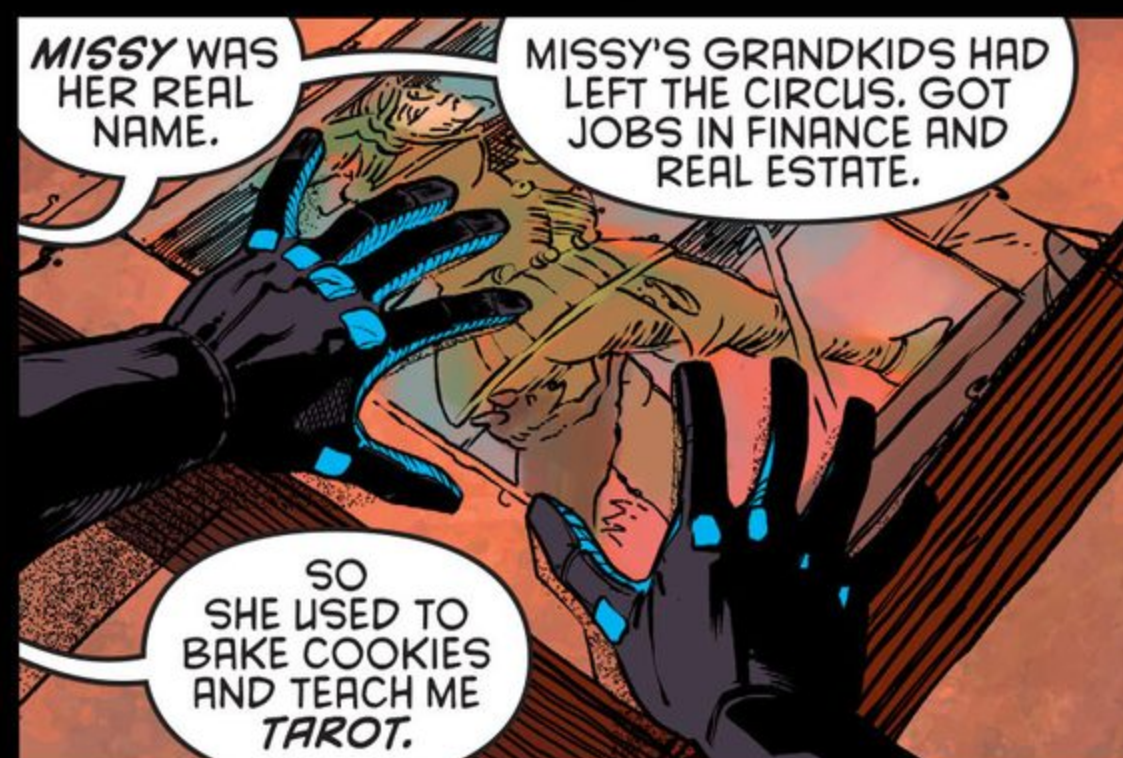
NIGHTWING, I DON'T--I DON'T HAVE A WI-FI SIGNAL.

WAIT, IS THIS YOU ADMITTING YOU DON'T *KNOW* SOMETHING?



IT'S OKAY. HALY'S CIRCUS SOMETIMES TOURED WITH A SIDESHOW.

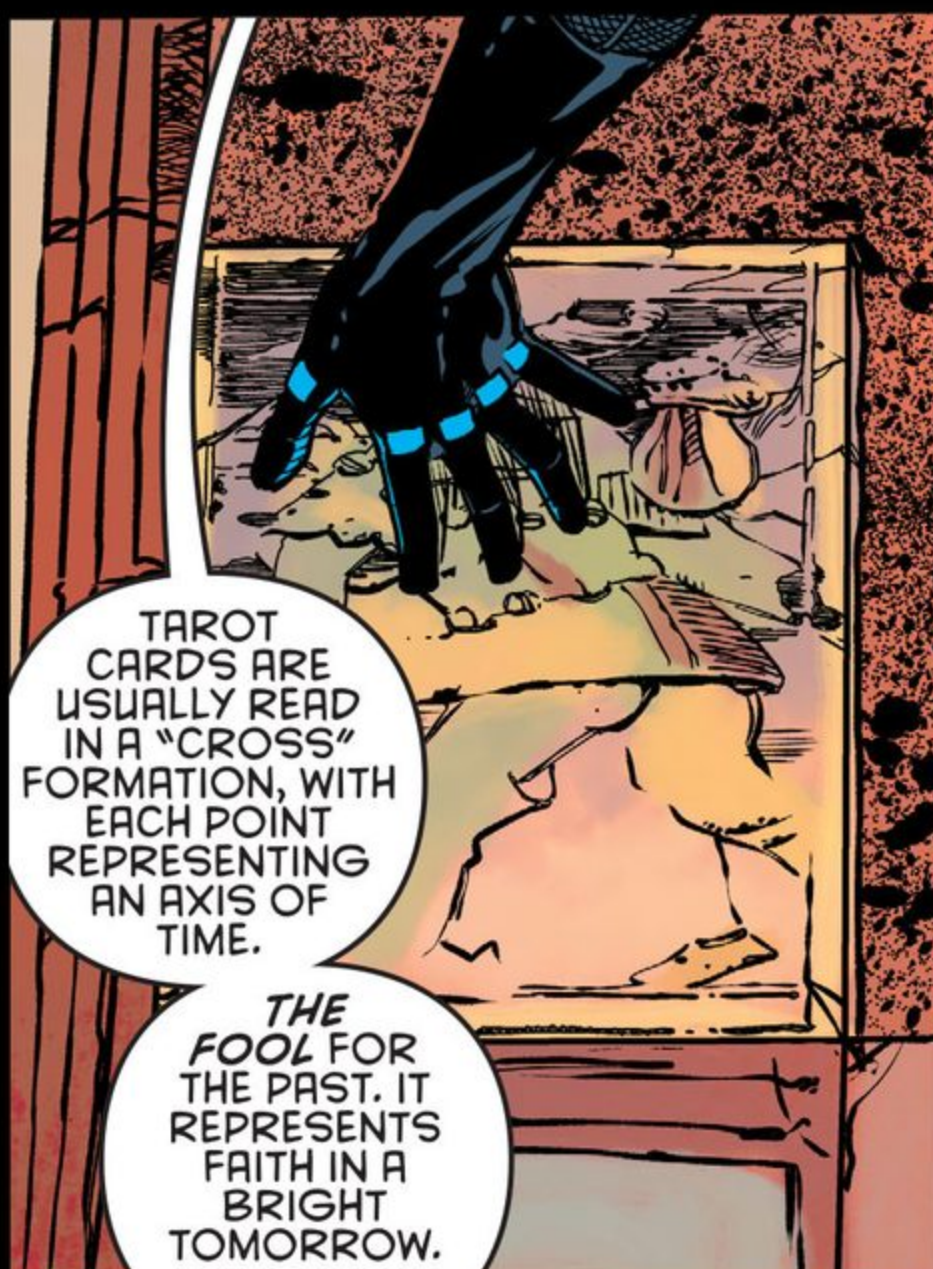
THEIR FORTUNE-TELLER WAS THIS NICE OLD LADY NAMED MADAME MYSTIQUE.



MISSY WAS HER REAL NAME.

MISSY'S GRANDKIDS HAD LEFT THE CIRCUS. GOT JOBS IN FINANCE AND REAL ESTATE.

SO SHE USED TO BAKE COOKIES AND TEACH ME *TAROT*.



TAROT CARDS ARE USUALLY READ IN A "CROSS" FORMATION, WITH EACH POINT REPRESENTING AN AXIS OF TIME.

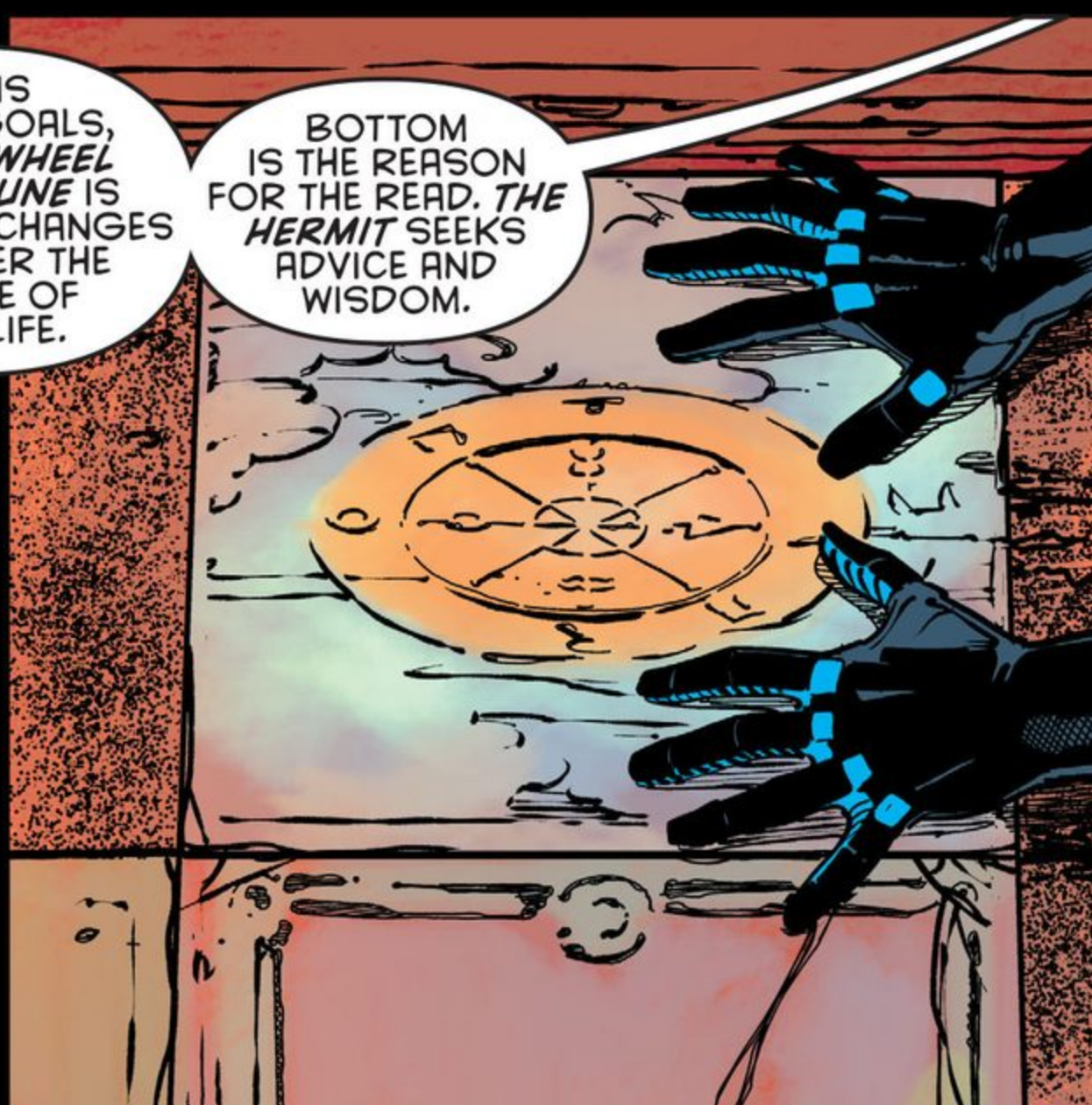
THE FOOL FOR THE PAST. IT REPRESENTS FAITH IN A BRIGHT TOMORROW.



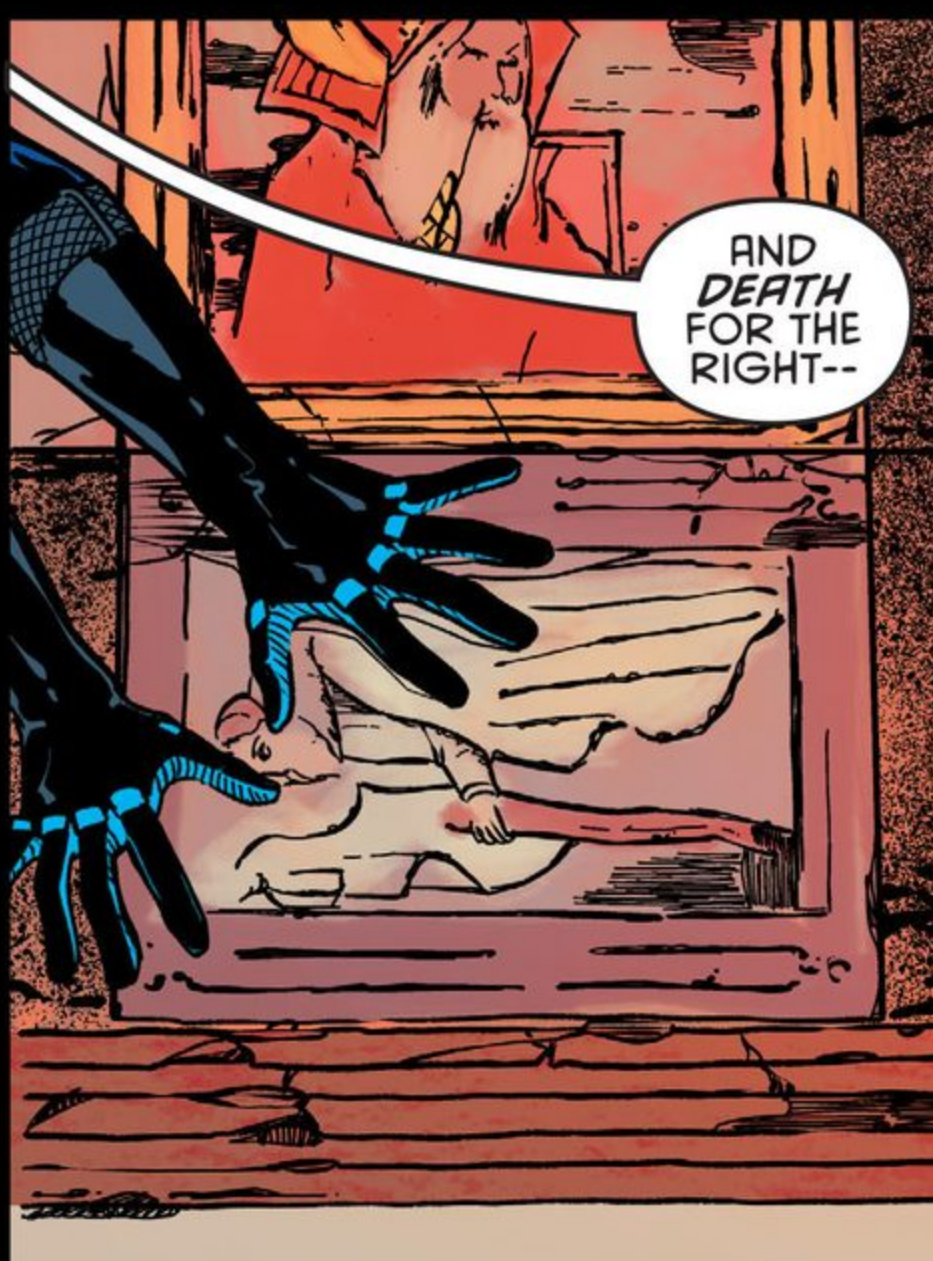
THE MIDDLE IS CURRENT. THE EMPEROR IS FOR CHANGING ONE'S WORLDVIEW.



TOP IS FUTURE GOALS, AND THE *WHEEL OF FORTUNE* IS IMPORTANT CHANGES THAT ALTER THE COURSE OF YOUR LIFE.



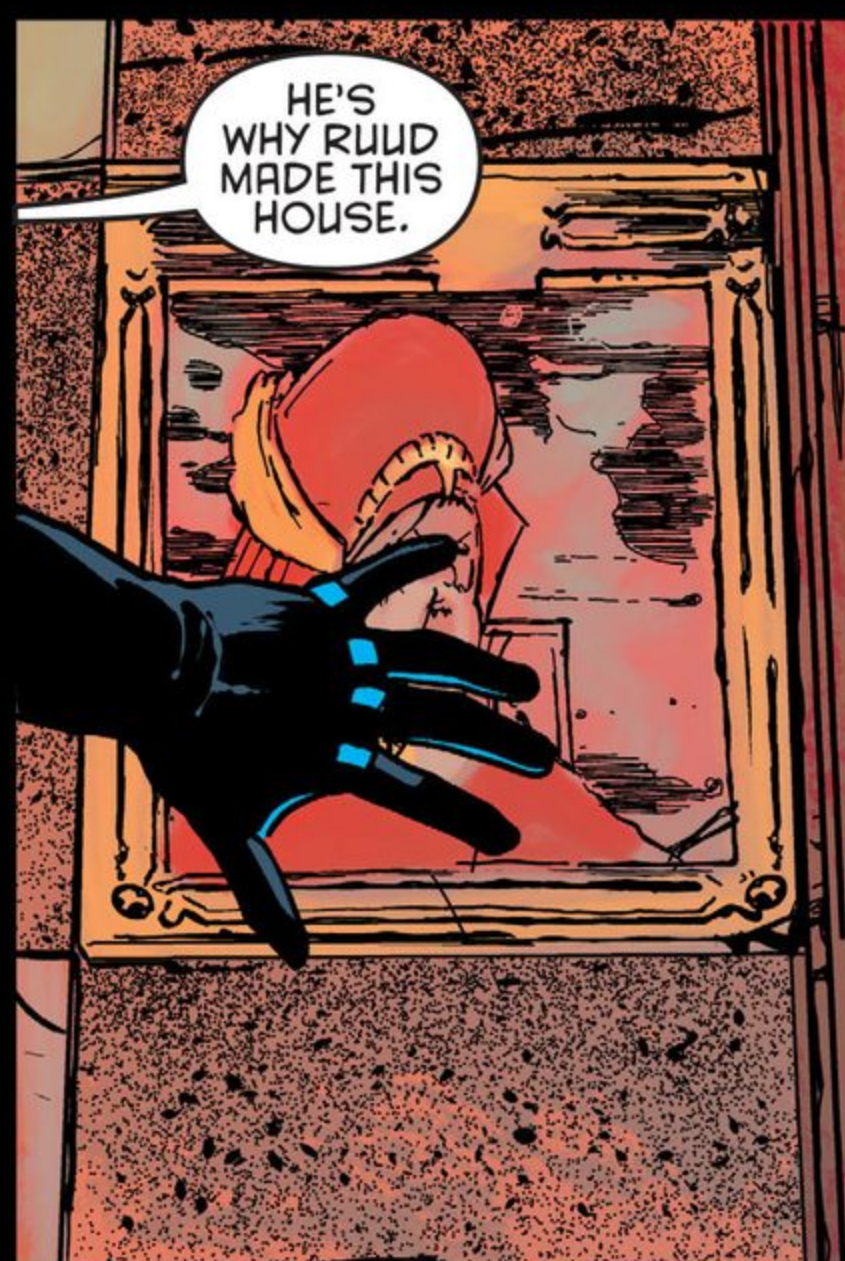
BOTTOM IS THE REASON FOR THE READ. THE *HERMIT* SEEKS ADVICE AND WISDOM.



AND *DEATH* FOR THE RIGHT--



THE RIGHT POINT REPRESENTS THE FUTURE. IT SHOULD BE *EMPEROR*. HE'S THE BUILDER. THE PROTECTOR.



HE'S WHY RUUD MADE THIS HOUSE.

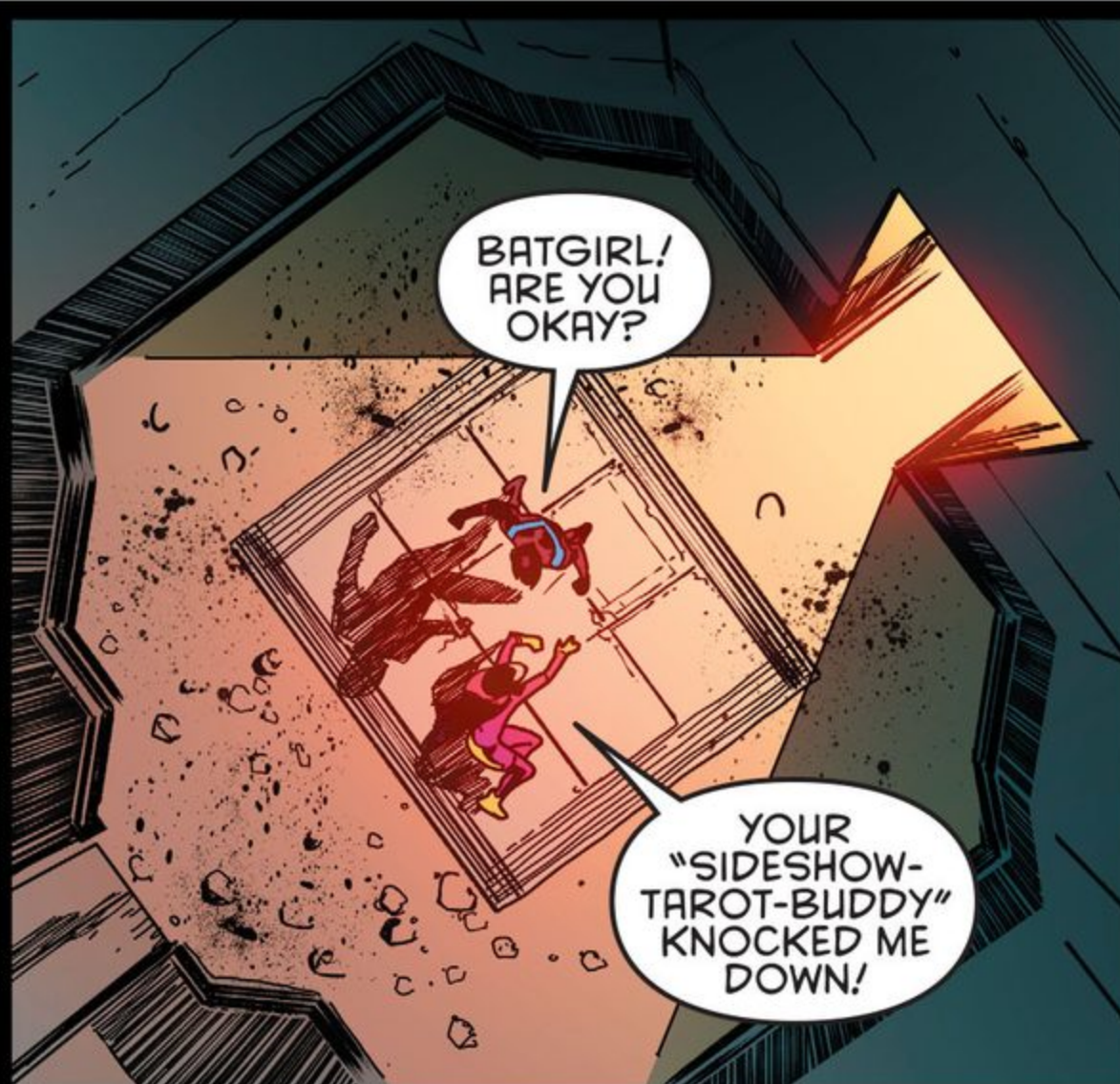


IT WORKED.

THE LIGHTS!

HNF!

WHAT THE--



BATGIRL! ARE YOU OKAY?

YOUR "SIDESHOW-TAROT-BUDDY" KNOCKED ME DOWN!



WHY WOULD HE--

YOU KNOW WHAT WOULD "PRESERVE CLANDESTINENESS"? IF RUUD WAS DEAD.



RAPTOR IS FULFILLING THE READING.

NO. HE ISN'T.

BECAUSE HE'S "GOT A CODE"?



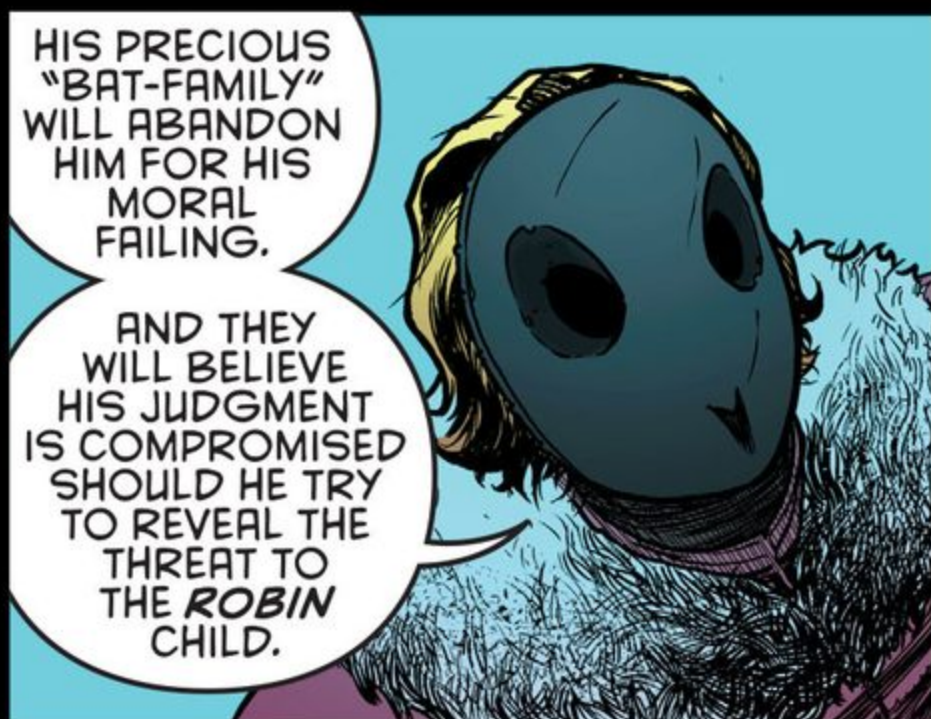
HE SAVED YOUR LIFE BACK THERE.

PRESERVING HIS COVER, DICK. JUST LIKE YOU. YOU TRUSTED HIM WAY TOO QUICKLY. BECAUSE HE'S FUNNY. CHARMING. *JUST LIKE YOU.*

BUT YOU *DON'T* KNOW HIM.



CHANIA, CRETE,
GREECE.







...but it doesn't
feel that much
less treacherous.

BATGIRL,
WAIT--

BATMAN
TAUGHT YOU
TO *INSPIRE FEAR*
IN CRIMINALS, NOT
HELP THEM PLAY
SICK PRANKS AND
STEAL MONEY,
NIGHTWING!

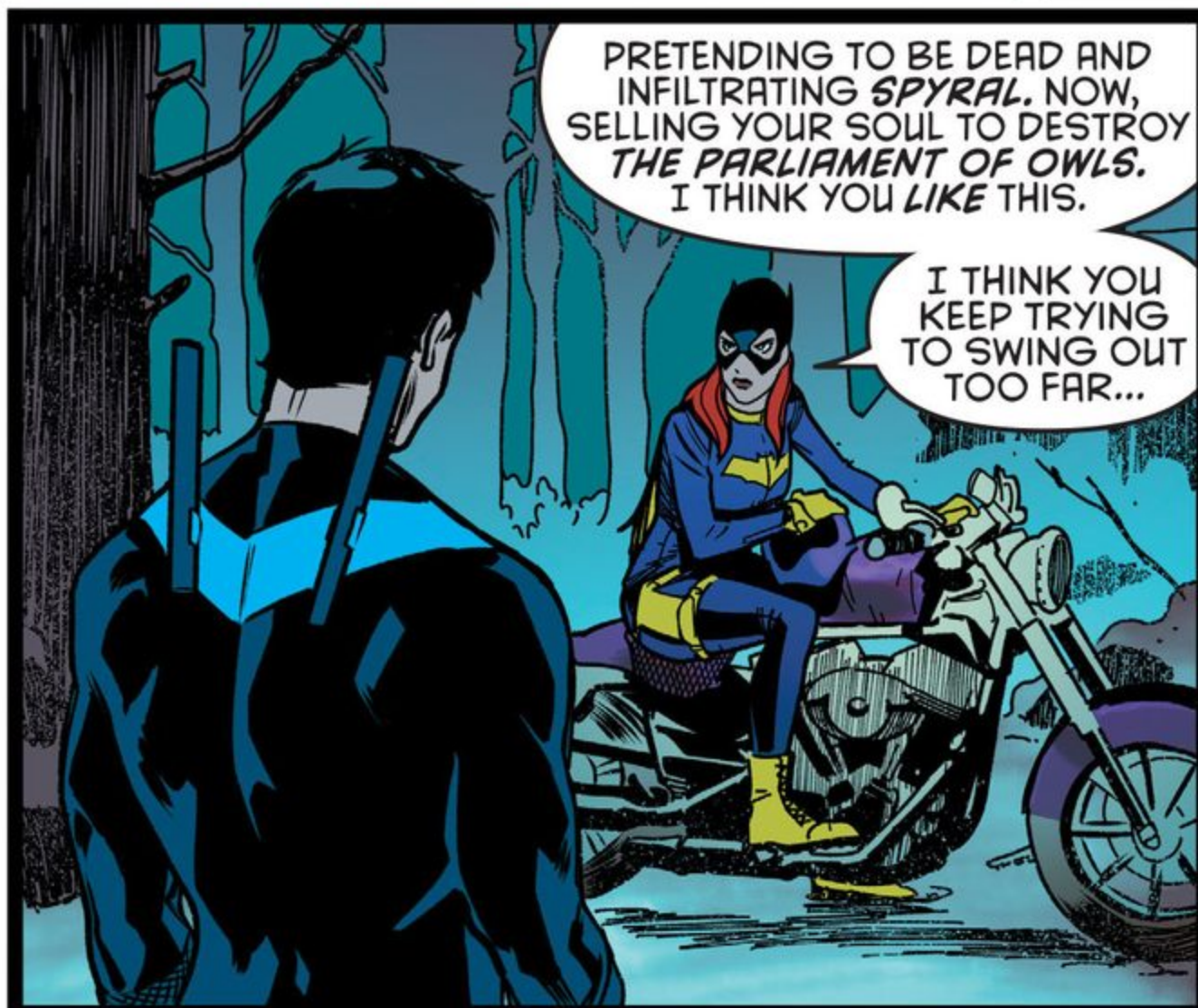


HEY, I KNOW
HOW THIS LOOKS,
BUT IT ALL TURNED
OUT PERFECTLY. WE
GOT WHAT WE
NEEDED.



TRUSTING
RAPTOR PAID
OFF. HE'S ON
OUR SIDE.

OUR SIDE?
I THINK YOU MEAN
YOUR SIDE. YOU
DIDN'T MEET ME IN
JAPAN BECAUSE
YOU KNEW EXACTLY
WHAT I'D SAY.



PRETENDING TO BE DEAD AND
INFILTRATING *SPYRAL*. NOW,
SELLING YOUR SOUL TO DESTROY
THE PARLIAMENT OF OWLS.
I THINK YOU *LIKE* THIS.

I THINK YOU
KEEP TRYING
TO SWING OUT
TOO FAR...



...SO YOU
DON'T HAVE
TO *SWING*
BACK.



THAT'S THE LOOK OF A MAN WHO CAN'T FIGURE OUT HOW HE LOST AN ARGUMENT.

WHY... WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL ME?

NOTHING TO TELL, MAN. I MADE THAT UP AS I WENT ALONG.



I CALL THAT "RAPTOR-ING" IT.

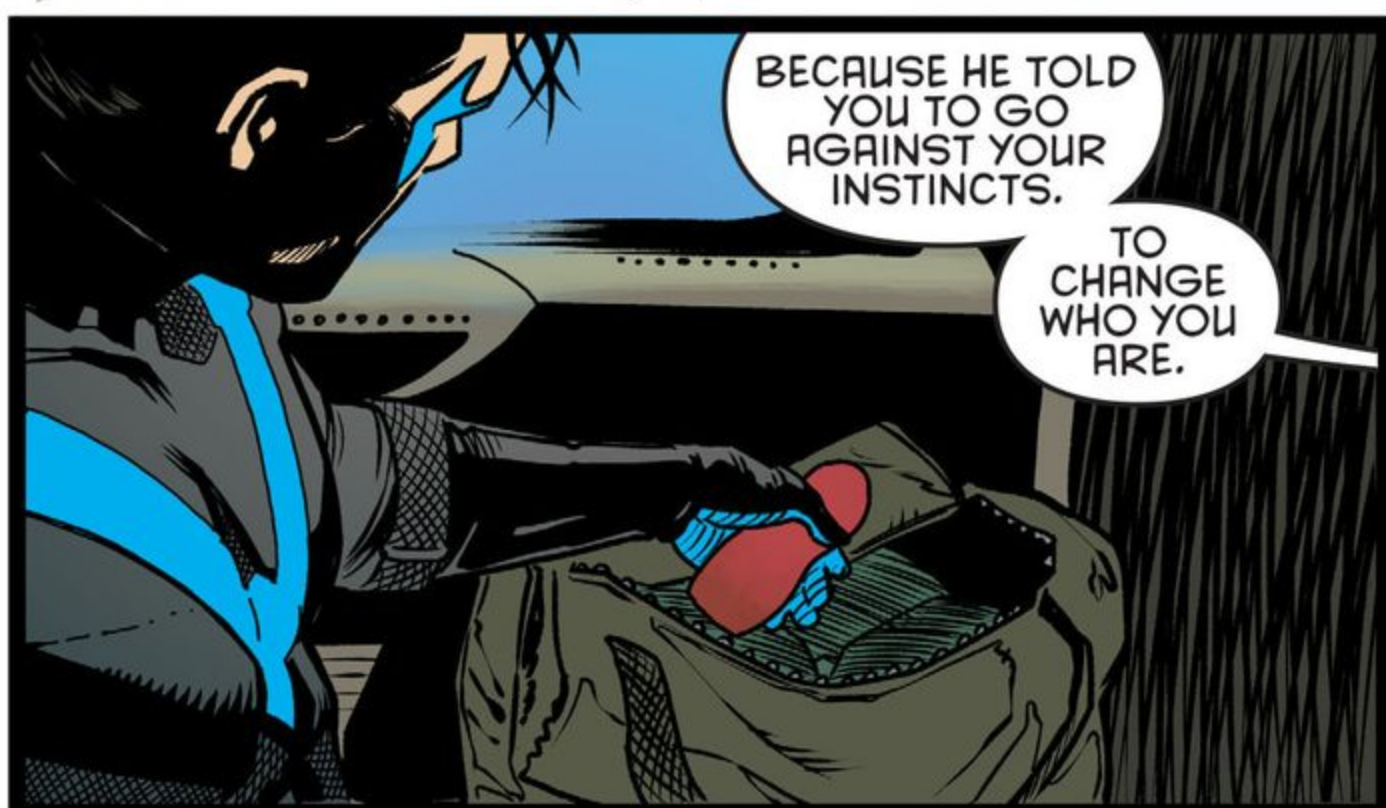
NO. ABOUT WANTING TO DISMANTLE THE PARLIAMENT.



BECAUSE TRUST EARNED BY ACTION IS ALWAYS BETTER THAN WORDS.

TRUSTING A THIEF. BATGIRL IS RIGHT. I'M DEFINITELY NOT DOING THINGS THE "BATMAN WAY."

I TOLD YOU WHEN WE MET, EVERYTHING BATMAN TAUGHT YOU WAS WRONG.



BECAUSE HE TOLD YOU TO GO AGAINST YOUR INSTINCTS.

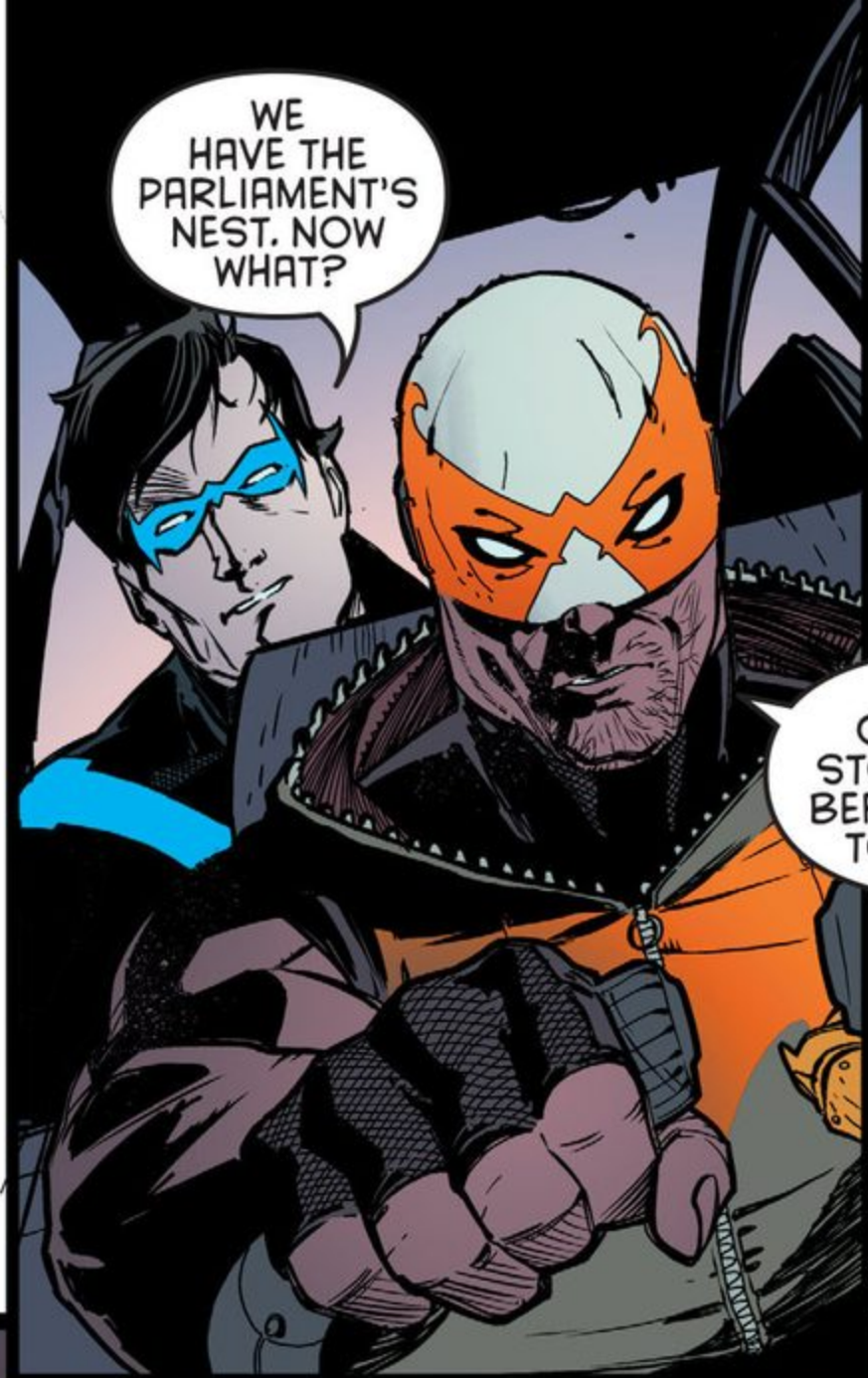
TO CHANGE WHO YOU ARE.



NOW YOU'RE FINDING OUT WHO YOU ARE...



...BENEATH ALL THOSE LAYERS OF BATMAN.



WE
HAVE THE
PARLIAMENT'S
NEST. NOW
WHAT?

WE'RE
GOING TO
STOP AT HOME
BEFORE WE GO
TO GREECE.



RAPTOR AIR.
OUTSIDE ISTANBUL, TURKEY.

"WHAT'S INSIDE THAT
LABYRINTH IS WHAT
WE NEED. AND WHAT
I HAVE IS WHAT THE
OWLS FEAR.



"SEE, A HUNDRED YEARS
AGO, **GOATHAM'S COURT
OF OWLS** NEEDED A WAY TO
KEEP TRACK OF WHO GAVE
WHAT TO THEIR COFFER.

"THEIR 'BRAND' IS THE
IDEA THAT '**AFFLUENCE
EQUALS INFLUENCE**,' AND
THAT NEEDED TO BE UPHOLD
ACROSS THE BOARD.



SO THEY HIRED A
MAD INVENTOR TO
MAKE **THE BOOK
OF WISDOM**.

UNTRACEABLE.
UNREADABLE BUT TO
A SELECT FEW. IN THE AGE OF
HACKERS AND CYBERCRIME
DIVISIONS, IT'S A TRADITION
THE PARLIAMENT HAS UPHOLD.



"THE PARLIAMENT
IS WHAT AILS US.

"**DR. LEVITICUS**
IS THE CURE."

NEXT: BURNING DOWN THE NEST



DOCTOR FATE REVEALS THE TRUTH BEHIND
THE BLUE BEETLE TO JAIME REYES AND TED KORD!

Blue Beetle #1

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KEITH GIFFEN

ART BY
SCOTT
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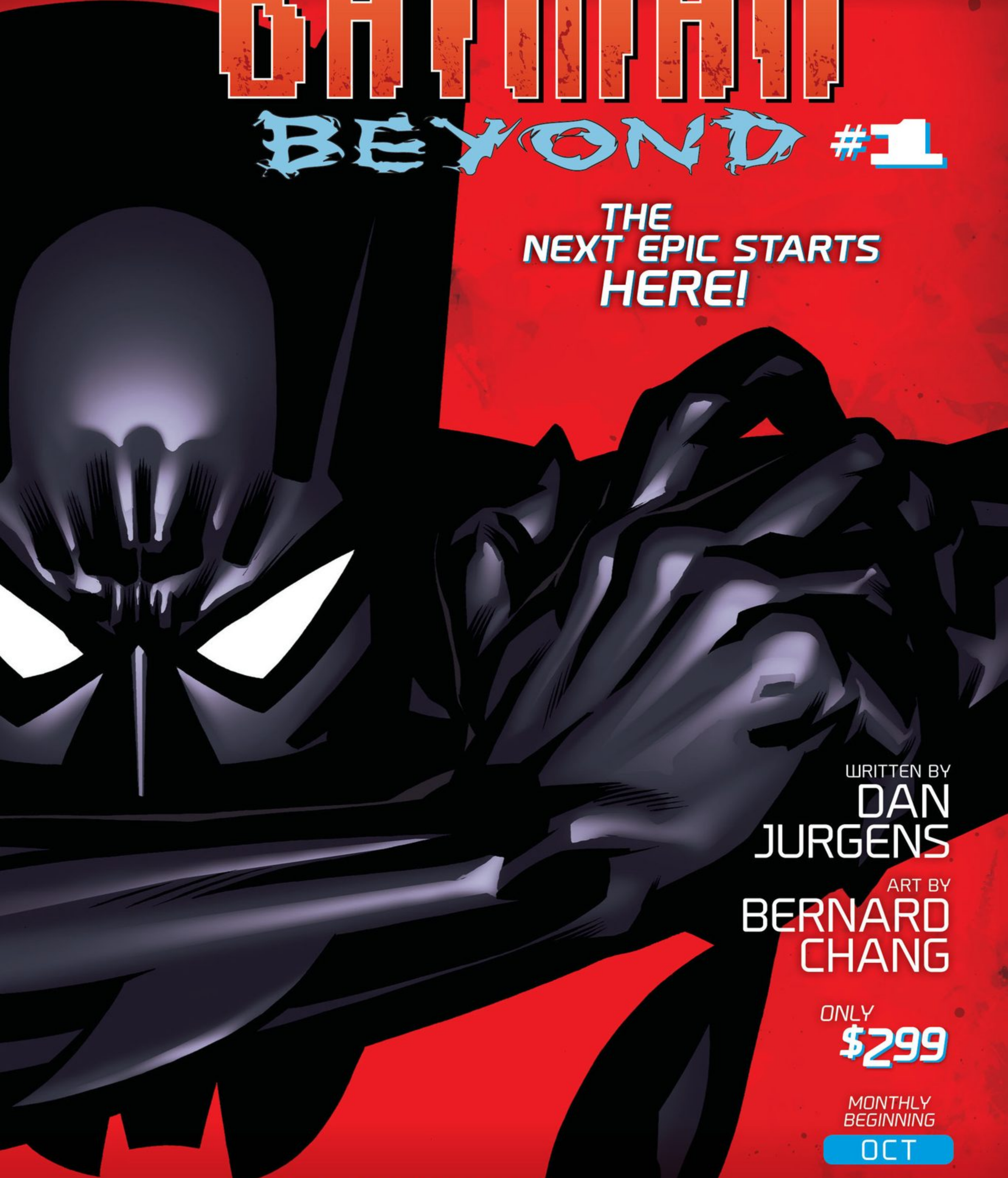


TERRY MCGINNIS RETURNS AS THE ORIGINAL DARK KNIGHT OF TOMORROW...TO STOP JOKER BEYOND!

BATMAN

BEYOND #1

THE
NEXT EPIC STARTS
HERE!



WRITTEN BY
DAN JURGENS
ART BY
BERNARD CHANG

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DC UNIVERSE REBIRTH

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